MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*) : The member says that the Cochin miller will make no distinction between Travancore copra and Ceylon copra. I want to know whether there is an export duty on Travancore copra.

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : There is export duty. The Cochin price is the Travancore price *plus* export duty.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : When the demand increases and the supply decreases, would it not enhance the value of the article ?

PRESIDENT : That is a general question. I think we have discussed this sufficiently, Mr. Nair.

Floods in the Periyar River.

77. ***MR. K. MAHOMED** (*Alwaye*) : Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are aware of the heavy losses sustained by the people owing to the floods in the Periyar river ?

MR. L. H. JACOB (*Ag. Chief Engineer*) ; Yes.

MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*) : Is the member aware of the fact that the high floods in the Periyar river are due to the sudden letting out of water from the Periyar Lake ?

MR. L. H. JACOB (*Ag. Chief Engineer*) : Yes, partly.

MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*) : Does the member know that the floods in recent years do not subside soon ?

MR. L. H. JACOB (*Ag. Chief Engineer*) : Yes.

MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*) : Does the member know that, owing to recent floods, the Periyar regions are still under water ?

MR. L. H. JACOB (*Ag. Chief Engineer*) : I am not aware.

MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*) : May I know from the member whether the Government have extended any help to relieve the distress caused by the recent floods ?

MR. L. H. JACOB (*Ag. Chief Engineer*) : I do not know.

MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*) : May I know from the member whether the Government have extended any help to relieve the distress of the poor ?

MR. L. H. JACOB (*Ag. Chief Engineer*) : I am not aware.

MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*) : Is the member aware of the fact that about 95 per cent. of the area in the Kunnatnad and Parur taluks is subject to floods ?

PRESIDENT : The member is giving information. You must ask for information, Mr. Mahomed.

MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*) : May I know from the member whether any reports have been submitted by the Tahsildars of Parur and Kunnatnad ?

MR. L. H. JACOB (*Ag. Chief Engineer*) : I have received none.

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MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*): May I know from the member whether the Dewan Peishkar made any report?

MR. L. H. JACOB (*Ag. Chief Engineer*): I am not aware.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): Are not these Periyar floods becoming more and more frequent in recent years?

MR. L. H. JACOB (*Ag. Chief Engineer*): Floods have been frequent everywhere, not only in the Periyar.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): I ask only with reference to the Periyar floods.

MR. L. H. JACOB (*Ag. Chief Engineer*): There have been more floods during the last few years.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): Has the Public Works Department thought of any manner in which the damages from floods may be minimised?

MR. L. H. JACOB (*Ag. Chief Engineer*): I claim notice.

MR. R. SAMBASIVA AIYAR (*Kunnatnad II*): Are there any definite rules regulating the letting out of water from the Periyar dam to this side of Travancore?

MR. L. H. JACOB (*Ag. Chief Engineer*): Yes, there are certain rules.

MR. R. SAMBASIVA AIYAR (*Kunnatnad II*): Can the member tell me what they are?

MR. L. H. JACOB (*Ag. Chief Engineer*): I have not got them with me.

MR. R. SAMBASIVA AIYAR (*Kunnatnad II*): Do they go according to these rules?

MR. L. H. JACOB (*Ag. Chief Engineer*): They are expected to abide by these rules.

MR. R. SAMBASIVA AIYAR (*Kunnatnad II*): Is the member aware that water was let out suddenly and violently this year half a dozen times?

MR. L. H. JACOB (*Ag. Chief Engineer*): I do not know.

T. A. bills of Excise Peons.

78.* MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*): (*a*) Are the Government aware of the fact that the Excise peons' T. A. is stopped for taking money for remittance in the treasury and for other Government purposes; and

(*b*) if so, when was it stopped?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): (*a*) Yes. Payment of travelling allowance to the subordinates of the department escorting remittances to treasuries was discontinued by the Excise Commissioner as a measure of retrenchment.

(*b*) 1st Dhanu 1107.

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